

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /068 W

-----129615 290753Z /13

R 290415Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8373

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1102

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PORG PINR PDIP LA ID MY SN TH RP VM

SUBJ: INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR SPEAKS FOR ASEAN

1. THE FOUR ASEAN STATES WITH DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN VIENTIANE (INDONESIA, THAILAND, THE PHILIPPINES AND MALAYSIA) ALTERNATE IN HOSTING MONTHLY SOCIAL GATHERING FOR THEIR STAFFS. IN THE EVENING OF JULY 16 WHILE MOST OF OFFICIAL VIENTIANE WAS PREOCCUPIED WITH ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE TOP-RANKING VIETNAMESE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION THE PREVIOUS DAY, THE INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO LAOS, SUFFRI JUSUF, HOSTED A DINNER/DANCE FOR ALL ASEAN MISSION STAFFS PLUS "FRIENDS". THE FRIENDS INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE AMERICAN, AUSTRALIAN, COMMON  
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MARKET MEMBER STATE AND JAPANESE MISSIONS IN VIENTIANE, DESCRIBED BY JUSUF AS "FRIENDS WITH WHOM ASEAN HAS LINKS OR RELATIONS AND DIALOGUES."

2. JUSUF WELCOMED HIS GUESTS WITH BRIEF REMARKS, LATER PROVIDED TO US IN CONFIDENCE, EXCERPTS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

(A) "ASEAN IS A REALITY TO RECKON WITH, FOR IT IS BECOMING STRONGER AND STRONGER WITH EACH PASSING DAY, ESPECIALLY IF IT HAS WONDERFUL AND ECONOMICALLY POWERFUL FRIENDS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

(B) "TO THOSE WHO OPPOSE ASEAN, WE HAVE ALWAYS EXTENDED OUR HAND OF FRIENDSHIP FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND WE CAN NOW ALSO SAY, IF THEY MISUNDERSTAND US AND WANT HOSTILE CO-EXISTENCE INSTEAD, IT IS ALL RIGHT WITH US BECAUSE IT IS NOT FOR US TO DECIDE WHAT THEY WANT, EVEN IF THEY WANT A CONFRONTATION, IT WILL BE OK FOR US; WE WILL SURELY NOT RUN AWAY.

(C) "BUT WHAT WE WANT ABOVE ALL, IS A PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT EVEN IF WE HAVE DIFFERENT POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS.

(D) "WHAT WE WANT IS PEACE, INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, STABILITY, SECURITY, SOCIAL PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY FOR ALL THE PEOPLES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. SO WHY NOT LIVE AND LET LIVE WITHOUT INTERFERING IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

(E) "WE HAIL OUR FRIENDS FROM THAILAND, FOR FIRMLY HOLDING THE POSITION OF OUR VANGUARD, OUR OUTPOST AT CONFIDENTIAL

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THE FRONTLINE AGAINST ALL SCHEMES AND ACTS OF SABOTAGE AND SUBVERSION BY ANY EXPANSIONIST FORCE OR IDEOLOGY EXPORTER.

(F) "THEY CAN BE ASSURED OF THE SOLID SOLIDARITY OF THE OTHER ASEAN MEMBERS, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, THE PHILIPPINES AND INDONESIA, WHO ARE THEIR BASTIONS FOR PEACE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

(G) "SORRY FOR MY USING OF LOCAL JARGON, BUT SINCE WE ARE LIVING HERE, WE MUST GO ALONG WITH THE FASHION. I HOPE THAT NOBODY WILL MIND. FOR GOOD SAKE, YOU CAN USE OTHER PHRASES FOR WHAT I SAY, SO LONG AS IT IS THE SAME AS WHAT I MEAN.

(H) "THE BIGGEST CAPITAL IN ASEAN IS THE POLITICAL WILL OF EACH MEMBER FOR ETERNAL FRIENDSHIP, UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION, NEGOTIATION AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BY PEACEFUL MEANS..."

3. JUSUF'S GUESTS, PARTICULARLY ASEAN DIPLOMATS, APPLAUDED HIS REMARKS VIGOROUSLY.

4. THE INDONESIA EMBASSY PUBLISHES A WEEKLY NEWS-  
LETTER WHICH OFTEN CARRIES NEWS OF ASEAN ACTIVITIES AS  
WELL AS COVERAGE OF INDONESIAN NEWS.

5. COMMENT: INDONESIA DIPLOMATS HERE IN PRIVATE  
CONVERSATION REGULARLY SPEAK OF ASEAN ALONG LINES  
SIMILAR TO JUSUF'S, AS DO MOST OTHER ASEAN STATE  
DIPLOMATS IN VIENTIANE. JUSUF'S EAGERNESS TO SPEAK ON  
BEHALF OF ASEAN IN PART REFLECTS HIS OWN PERSONAL  
STYLE BUT ALSO REFLECTS INDONESIA'S APPARENT POSITION  
HERE AS FIRST AMONG EQUALS AMONG THE ASEAN STATES.  
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## Message Attributes

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